



A Summary of the Benefits of Defense Maps

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Defense Maps have turned out in their implementation to be even more powerful than its development team had originally hoped.

Here are 12 of the benefits that have emerged.

1. Defense Maps reveal extensive information rarely shared by clients in interviews, often multiplying severalfold the pivotal information defense attorneys sometimes have for rich clients but rarely for poor ones: their backstories.
2. They automatically scan each client's information for issues, defenses, and mitigation and organize and highlight the findings on a Flags Page.
3. In the broad range of life details included, they enable counsel to present a contagiously favorable view of each client.
4. They quickly and powerfully rebut biased and incomplete pretrial risk assessments and highlight up to 14 commonly overlooked reasons for immediate release.
5. Through an "Index of Supporters," they identify which family and other supporters can be of help in clients' lives and defenses—and in what exact ways.
6. They play a vital and early role in determining what expert assistance to seek.
7. They allow clients to review their lives and make powerful decisions about changes they can undertake (to their legal as well as personal benefit), and instead of offering someone else's judgments, they allow clients to draw their own conclusions about personal issues like addiction, functioning, and counseling.
8. They supercharge attorney-client relationships by overcoming socio-economic divides often threatening these relationships and creating a powerful team mentality.
9. They allow support staff to help in unprecedented ways, including by securing and reviewing a Map in every case.
10. They are vital to a system where defenders actually have an early dossier on each client's case and life—and thus some approximation of the prosecution's currently massively superior resources.
11. They accomplish all this at the very beginning of cases—thus when the information is most vital.
12. As shown in FAQ #25, the resource is easily implemented in jails and prisons.